# Annex 1 Overview of implementation at the action level (Table 1)

**IPA III Window 3: Green Agenda and Sustainable Connectivity**

**Thematic Priority 1: Environment and climate change**

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| **2014-2020 Multi-annual Action Programme for Environment and Climate Action and Transport** | |
| **2014-2020 Sector Operational Programme on Environment and Climate Action** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | **Action 1 - Approximation of environmental and climate action legislation in priority areas and gradual move to sector-based approach** | | | | Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis and  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Twinning Contract: Further strengthening the capacities for effective implementation of the acquis in the field of industrial pollution | Contract implementation is ongoing as of March 2023. | | Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Twinning Contract: Support in the implementation of the waste management legislation and extended producer responsibility scheme | Contract implementation is ongoing as of December 2022. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract (global price): Support in the Implementation of Regional Waste Management Systems in East and North-East Regions | The tender procedure is completed.  The contract implementation will start in January 2024. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Service Contract (fee based): Development of Environmental Monitoring and Information System | Contract implementation is completed in July 2023. | | Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis  Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract (global price): Improving capacities for Natura 2000 and CITES | Contract implementation is ongoing as of June 2022. | | Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Supply Contract: Supply of air quality equipment of Environmental Monitoring System - Lot 2 | Contract implementation is ongoing as of November 2023. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Service Contract (global price): Preparation and revision of the National Waste Planning documents | Contract implementation is ongoing as of November 2023. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis  Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract (global price): Preparation of Long-term Strategy and Law on Climate Action | The contract was completed in the previous reporting period. | | **Action 2 – Investment in water and waste management** | | | | OIS “Technical audit for investment projects in Environment sector” | Technical audit for wastewater investment projects | Service tender procedure has been cancelled in July 2023 due to the breach of the procurement principles related to fair competition and transparent procedure. Relaunch is expected in February 2024. | | Technical audit for waste investment projects | ToR is under preparation, contract expected to be signed in January 2025 and completed by September 2027. | | Activity 2.2 Establishing of an Integrated and Financially Self-sustainable Waste Management System | Supply Contract: Support in Establishment of Regional Waste Management System - Supply of waste collection equipment - LOT 1 | Contract implementation is completed in March 2023.  The Provisional Acceptance Certificated has been issued in November 2021.  Final Acceptance Certificated has been issued in March 2023. | | Supply Contract: Support in Establishing Regional Waste Management System - supply of waste collection equipment - LOT 2 | Contract implementation is completed in March 2023.  The Provisional Acceptance Certificated has been issued in November 2021 while Final Acceptance Certificated in March 2023. | | Activity 2.2 Establishing of an Integrated and Financially Self-sustainable Waste Management System | Works Contract: Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in East region - LOT 1 | Contract implementation is ongoing as of March 2022.  Contract has been suspended in the period May 2020 - March 2022. | | Works Contract: Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in North-east region – LOT 2 | Tender preparation is ongoing.  The Contract was signed in March 2020 and in July 2022 has been terminated. | | Service Contract: Supervision of Works Contract for Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in East and North-East regions - Phase I | Contract implementation is ongoing as of November 2021.  It is expected extension of the implementation period. | | Activity 2.1: Establishing wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure meeting EU requirements | Works Contract: Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo | Contract implementation is ongoing as of February 2023. | | Service contract: Supervision of Works Contract for Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo | Contract implementation is ongoing as of February 2020.  Initial contract implementation period was 39 months. Following the signature of the contract addendum in 2023, the implementation period is prolonged to 74.5 months. | | Activity 2.1: Establishing wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure meeting EU requirements | Works Contract: Improvement of the wastewater collection infrastructure in the city of Skopje | Contract has been terminated in May 2022 due to the low performance of the contractor and failing to progress in accordance with the programme of work. Contract termination is under arbitration procedure in Arbitration Court in Paris. | | Service Contract: Supervision of the implementation of the works contracts for improvement of the wastewater collection infrastructure in the city of Skopje | Contract completed in October 2022. (related to works contract - Improvement of the wastewater collection infrastructure in the city of Skopje). |   **Part of the AD under Indirect Management**   * Major delay in the implementation of the procurement plan. Currently, the total contracting rate under the programme is 29% until the end of 2023. Only 14% of the Procurement plan for 2023 has been implemented. Related to the ex-ante controls of tender documentation by the EUD, rejection rate is 7.56% while suspension rate is 15.13%. * Major differences between the forecast submitted and request of funds. Around 52% of the Disbursement plan for 2023 has been realised. Currently, total disbursement rate under the programme is 11%.  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Total IPA funds available under AD** | **Contracted amount in 2023** | **Total IPA funds contracted until the end of 2023** | **Total IPA funds disbursed until the end of 2023** | **Remarks (e.g. deviation from plan)** | | 114,957,592 EUR | 12,422,697 EUR | 33,873,106 EUR | 13,129,957 EUR | Out of contracted IPA funds, around 39% of IPA funds have been paid to the contractors. Slow progress in implementation of procurement procedures due to the various difficulties resulted in significant delays causing decommitment of funds at the end of 2022 and 2023. | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Main achievements and assessment** | | **Action 1 - Approximation of environmental and climate action legislation in priority areas and gradual move to sector-based approach** | | | | Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis and  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Twinning Contract: Further strengthening the capacities for effective implementation of the acquis in the field of industrial pollution | The progress of the project is satisfactory and there is close and mutual cooperation between the Member State and the Beneficiary Country. There are no delays on the time schedule of the activities. The aim of the Twinning Project is to protect human health and the environment by reducing harmful industrial emissions in all environmental media (water, air and soil), as well as to further strengthen the national and local administrative capacities in the area of industrial pollution by improving the integrated environmental permits, which should contain conditions set in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Industrial Emission Directive (IED) and Best Available Techniques Conclusions (BATC). In the frame of this project will be covered the following components: harmonization of legal framework, improvement of EIA procedure for IED activities and IPPC permitting process. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Service Contract (global price): Preparation and revision of the National Waste Planning documents | No progress has been reported since the project started in November 2023. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis  Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract (global price): Preparation of Long-term Strategy and Law on Climate Action | Contract implementation was completed in the previous reporting period. Project main achievements are as follows:   * Completed analysis that includes background analytical and technical reports on specific strategic and legal issues that will serve as background and input to the Strategy and Law. * Prepared Report on assessment of the capacity, administrative and financial needs for implementation of Strategy and Law, and on the legal competences of governmental and executive bodies, with conclusion on the Strategy and Law. * Prepared Report on the road map for transposition and implementation of EU climate acquis, with recommendations on the legal framework to be established by the Law on Climate Action. * Prepared Report on assessment of the current knowledge and research results as well as gaps on GHG scenarios and low emissions and climate resilient development paths, assessment of mitigation measures, including the assessment of economic impact, and on the research and decision-making framework for the path towards future targets, with policy-relevant conclusions to be included in Strategy and Law. * Prepared Report on the country’s vulnerability to climate change, based on available studies, with identification of priority adaptation/climate resilience objectives, including the research and decision-making framework, with policy-relevant conclusions to be included in Strategy and Law. * Completed draft Long-term Strategy on Climate Action. * Completed draft legal text of the Law on Climate Action with secondary legislation. * Completed secondary legislation transposing the MMR and consequent amendments and Implementation plan of the MMR developed. * Completed draft Action Plan on the implementation of the initial phase of the Strategy and Law. * Completed Implementation plan and legal framework for the system for the monitoring mechanism of GHG emissions, in line with the EU Monitoring Mechanism Regulation No 525/2013. * Completed Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment report on the Long-term Strategy on Climate Action. * Completed training activities supporting the strategic and legal framework for climate action; and * Concluded awareness raising, visibility events, and stakeholder consultation activities.   The Project had a positive impact that contributed to:   * The assessment of the institutional, legal, and technical framework for climate change in the country. * The development of public policy with participative and representative decision-making processes. * The development of administrative capacity for climate action and * Raising climate awareness. | | **Action 2 – Investment in water and waste management** | | | | OIS Technical audit for investment projects in Environment sector | Technical audit for wastewater investment projects | Contract has not been started. | | Technical audit for waste investment projects | Contract has not been started. | | Activity 2.2 Establishing of an Integrated and Financially Self-sustainable Waste Management System | Supply contract: Support in Establishing Regional Waste Management System - Supply of waste collection vehicles - LOT 1 | The contract implementation has been completed in 2022.  The contractor supplied end beneficiaries (public utility companies) in the East and North-East region with vehicles for waste collection as well as provided training regarding waste collection vehicles. The total number of vehicles that were provided through this contract were 41. In East region (Zrnovci, Vinica, Sveti Nikole, Shtip, Probishtip, Pehchevo, Makedonska Kamenica, Kochani, Karbinci, Delchevo, Cheshinovo-Obleshevo and Berovo) were delivered 24 vehicles and in North-East (Staro Nagorichane, Rankovce, Lipkovo, Kumanovo, Kriva Palanka and Kratovo) were delivered 17 vehicles. Also, one training was conducted. | | Activity 2.2 Establishing of an Integrated and Financially Self-sustainable Waste Management System | Supply Contract: Support in Establishing Regional Waste Management System - Supply of waste collection equipment - LOT 2 | The contract implementation is completed in 2023.  The contractor supplied end beneficiaries (public utility companies) in the East and North-East region with containers for residual waste. In East region (Zrnovci, Vinica, Sveti Nikole, Shtip, Probishtip, Pehchevo, Makedonska Kamenica, Kochani, Karbinci, Delchevo, Cheshinovo-Obleshevo and Berovo) were delivered 2125 metal containers for residual waste. In North-East region (Staro Nagorichane, Rankovce, Lipkovo, Kumanovo, Kriva Palanka and Kratovo) were delivered 1798 metal containers. Total number of delivered containers for residual waste are 3923 for both regions. | | Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas. | Twinning Contract: Support in the implementation of  the waste management legislation  and extended producer responsibility  scheme | The progress of the project is satisfactory and there is close and mutual cooperation between the Member State and the Beneficiary Country. The aim of the Twinning Project is to enable the efficient and effective operation of a modern, accountable recycling and recovery industry in the country, following the principles of the circular economy. The specific objective is to develop a professional, deliverable, accountable and efficient EPR system, thus strengthening the capacity of the competent national authorities for waste management and stakeholders for modern waste management and online recording and reporting period. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract: Support in the Implementation of Regional Waste Management Systems in East and North-East Regions | No progress has been reported in the reporting period since the project is starting in January 2024. | | Activity 1.1 Preparation of planning documents in priority areas  Activity 1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract: Development of Environmental Monitoring and Information System | **Component I: Development of National Environmental Information System (NEIS)**   * National Environmental Information System (NEIS) developed, installed, tested and operational; * Technical specifications for operation and maintenance of fully functional NEIS; * Legal acts for in the area of the Environment information system on the structure, content; form, the method of management and maintenance of the information system prepared;   **Component II: Development of National Environmental Monitoring Network (NEMN)**   * Assessment report of legal and administrative capacity for performing environmental monitoring; * Gap Assessment Report for Environmental Monitoring; * Secondary legislation prepared for performing environmental monitoring; * Technical and Financial reports for environmental monitoring with technical specification and market analysis for the priority needed equipment; * National Environmental Monitoring Strategy and Action Plan; * National Environmental Monitoring Programme;   **Component III: Strengthening the capacity for implementation of NEIS and NEMN**   * Assessment Report of the Administrative Capacity for Environmental Information System and Monitoring; * Functional analysis of the tasks and obligations of relevant institutions responsible for keeping of NEIS and National Environmental Monitoring Network; * Institutional Plan for Strengthening the Capacity for Implementation of NEIS and NEMN; * Procedures developed for environmental information dissemination and access to information; * Long and Short Term Training plans prepared; * Ten (10) Trainings for NEIS and NEMN delivered to minimum 80 participants; * Two (2) Study visit reports. | | Activity 1.2 Transposition of Environmental and Climate Acquis  Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Service Contract: Improving capacities for Natura 2000 and CITES | **Component 1: Natura 2000.**  **Activity 1.1 Assessment and preparation of draft SDF for potential NATURA 2000 sites.**   * Prepared gap analysis report for currently data of distribution of habitats, plants, animals and birds for EU interest in the country in relation of requirement of Habitats and Birds directives – completed; * Updated methodology and report for selected areas for field investigation of distribution of habitats, species and birds for EU interest at national level - completed; * Prepared report for field investigation for distribution of habitats, species and birds for EU interest in whole territory of Beneficiary Country where common national expert opinion is ensured - Field work is ongoing. * Prepared inventory data base for habitats, plants, animals and birds for EU interest in Beneficiary Country - ongoing; * Prepared new software package for collection and operating with data – completed; * Implementation starting in Nov. 2023Prepared and revised of Standard Data Forms for potential Natura 2000 sites at national level - ongoing * Prepared and updated Draft National Reference Lists for habitats, plants, animals and birds according to Habitat and Birds directive – ongoing; * Prepared interpretation Catalogue/Handbook for habitats from Annex I of Habitats Directive for the Republic of North Macedonia – ongoing; * Prepared min. 3 Action Plans for priority selected EU one habitat and two species at national level – ongoing.   **Activity 1.2 Capacity building program for implementation of NATURA 2000 network**   * Min 12 trainings for different topics of Natura 2000-ongoing; * Preparation of print and digital materials – ongoing; * Social media and web for promoting Natura 2000 (maintenance of the web page Natura 2000.gov.mk, Facebook, Instagram) – ongoing. * Citizen Science pilot activity – completed.   **Component 2: CITES**  **Activity 2.1 Primary legislation aligned with the Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97**   * Prepared gap analyses report including recommendations for amendments of the Law on Nature Protection - completed; * Prepared draft new text on Law on CITES accompanied; with Table of Concordance 01-2023, relevant sub-Laws 02-2023 - completed; * Organized at least two consultation workshops - ongoing;   **Activity 2.2 Capacity building program for implementing of CITES Regulative**   * Training curricula and Training plan for short and long term for strengthening the administrative capacity according to CITES – completed; * Organized min. 10 trainings for different CITES topics – ongoing; * Preparation and print materials – ongoing; * Social media and website for promoting CITES Regulative – ongoing; * Develop a new software for issuing permits for CITES certificate and perform min 1 training for MoEPP staff – ongoing.   For the purpose of visibility and promotion, four events were organized with EUD and MOEPP, regular posts on social media were published, and promotional materials were produced and distributed. | | Activity1.3 Strengthening capacities for implementation and enforcement of environment and climate action legislation in priority areas | Supply Contract: Supply of IT and other specific equipment for Environmental Monitoring and Information System, Lot 2: Supply of air quality equipment of Environmental Monitoring System | No progress has been reported in the reporting period since the project started in November 2023. | | Activity 2.2 Establishing of an Integrated and Financially Self-sustainable Waste Management System | Works Contract: Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in East region – LOT 1  Service Contract: Supervision of Works Contract for Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in East and North-East regions - Phase I | During the six-month reporting period from May to November 2023, progress was focused on the finalisation of the Detailed Designs of the main landfills and the transportation of waste mainly in the small dumpsites, as well as on the following issues:   * Submission of the proposed laboratory for sampling and testing of soil and clay; * Request for additional payment due to additional waste quantities in Istibanja site area; * Request for Time Extension: Preparation of Urban Planning and SEA; * Submission of the updated time schedule; * Request for starting preparatory works in the main landfills (Vinica and Stip main landfills); * Submission of the Monthly Progress Reports; * Submission of the Urban Planning status; * Submission of the Weekly Progress reports; * Submission of the proposed geosynthetic materials; * Request for replacement of Contractor’s Representative and request for appointment of Deputy Contractor’s Representative;   Considering the work progress of LOT1, the following delays have been occurred:   * Significant delays during the preparation of the Detailed Designs from Contractor's side; * Significant delays have been occurred due to the UP process which is still ongoing; | | Works Contract: Closure of Non-compliance Landfills in North-east region – LOT 2 | No main achievements under the project since contract has been terminated. | | Activity 2.1 Establishing wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure meeting EU requirements | Works Contract: Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo | Currently, more than 10 full months have passed since the start date - which is over 40% of the implementation period, while the progress achieved is around 1% and no IPC (interim payment certificate) has been issued by the Contractor.  Progress of work = 1%  Financial progress = 0% | | Service Contract: Supervision of Works Contract for Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo | |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Contract title** | **Problem encountered and measures taken/planned** | | Improvement of the wastewater collection infrastructure in the city of Skopje | The contractor has failed to progress the works in accordance with the programme of work due to the delays on the contractor’s side. Therefore, termination notice has been issued in May 2022. Arbitration procedure is ongoing and the project will be completed within the national budget. | | Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo | From the very start of the contract implementation in February 2023, the Contractor has not been capable of organising the site activities on his own and hiring a qualified team. Therefore, the contractor has not demonstrated that he has the technical and professional ability to coordinate the work. The challenges arise both with the execution of the works, the finalization of the contract documents, and with the lack of internal coordination from the contractor’s side.  The Public Enterprise "Komunalec" and the municipality of Kichevo support the project and show a strong commitment to the successful implementation of the project. It has been noted by all stakeholders that there is great concern that the progress of the work is too slow, and that the contractor is not meeting his program in all aspects. Poor progress is indicated at every monthly meeting held regularly. Given that the situation is extremely serious, the last two meetings were attended by all stakeholders to discuss the progress so far, the degree of realization as well as the intentions and future commitment of the contractor which requires considerable improvements in terms of machinery used, manpower, proper organization of works, etc. Also, if the Contractor does not start construction activities on all sections, the building permits will expire, and they will have to be reissued. As a result, significant additional time will be lost for construction work by reissuing building permits.  In addition to all the above-mentioned obstacles, the Contractor has submitted Complaint No. 1 - Disturbance of the works - sub-project 5, manhole 67. Namely, the Contractor requests an additional time and money due to the impossibility to work on the construction of manhole 67. The Supervision mentioned that the Contractor did not start the construction activities at the agreed point of the manhole 68 as stated in their letter to the Supervision, but they independently decided to start from the manhole 67. The supervision considers that the submitted Complaint No. 1 is unfounded, because they have not yet submitted documents (analyses, records, etc.) that will support their request.  Currently, more than 11 full months have passed since the start date - which is close to 50% of the implementation period, while the progress achieved is just over 1.7% and no IPC (interim payment certificate) has been issued by the Contractor. There is a very strong possibility that money will not be paid to the Contractor in connection with this project in the early parts of 2024, thus greatly jeopardizing the overall disbursement of the allocated funds.  The technical assistance project related to supervision of works Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewerage Network in the Municipality of Kichevo, is affected with the encountered problems in the implementation and delays under the works contract. | | Development of Environmental Monitoring and Information System | Approval of the Final report (Narrative) is under assessment by the end beneficiary due to the identified issues related to unsatisfactory functioning of the NEIS system (still quite a lot of system problems – bugs, real testing with real situation that involves real data). Although some of the reported problem with the system were reported and resolved, still there are an open issue that should be taken care of to ensure fully functional system. | | Improving capacities for Natura 2000 and CITES | The project team sent a request for modification of the scope of services related to Activity 1 – Assessment and preparation of draft SDF for potential Natura 2000 sites in the Country in order to adjusting the scope of work regarding 4 additional sites in order to optimize the project assistance due to the identified need expressed by the final beneficiary (Department of Nature). Approval is pending. | | Closure of Non-compliance Landfills and Dumpsites in the East region – LOT 1 | Project is facing significant delay. Low progress was associated with cleaning of the small dumpsites and very low progress in preparation of the Urban Planning Documentation. Delay could be located both on contractors and on Municipalities side. Initial completion date was in March 2023, whereas contractor requested extension of the implementation period for 580 days (until October 2024).  Related technical assistance project for supervision of works Closure of Non-compliance Landfills and Dumpsites in the East region, is affected with the encountered problems in the implementation and delays under the works contracts giving the slow progress in the ongoing works contract and the other terminated. | |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | N/A |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | N/A |

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| **2021 Annual Action Plan** | |
| **AD 2021 “EU for Environmental Standards and Clean Air”** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | Output 1.1. Legislative framework better aligned with the EU acquis and institutional framework enforced | N/A | No progress reported. | | Output 1.2. Natural resources preserved and protected | N/A | No progress reported. | | Output 1.3. Small pond of OHIS industrial site cleaned-up | Small Pond of OHIS Industrial Site Clean-ups | Implementation is ongoing, carried out by Implementing Partner UNOPS. Duration: July 2023 – June 2026 | | Output 2.1. Increased share of environmentally friendly agriculture | EU for Clean Air | Implementation is ongoing, carried out by Implementing Partner UNOPS. Duration: September 2023 – September 2025 | | Output 2.2. Sustainable tourism products promoted and diversified | | Output 2.3. Green belts created | | Output 2.4. Preconditions for expansion of the central district heating in Skopje established | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | No progress reported until the end of 2023. |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | N/A |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | N/A |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | N/A |

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| **2021 Annual Action Plan** | |
| **AD 2021 “EU for Prespa”** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | Output 1.1. Decreased pollution from human activities | Restoration of natural resources and enhancing sustainable agriculture and tourism | Implementation is ongoing, carried out by Implementing Partner UNDP. Duration: December 2023 - June 2027. | | Output 1.2. Natural resources preserved and protected | | Output 2.1. Increased share of environmentally friendly agriculture | | Output 2.2. Sustainable tourism products promoted and diversified | | Output 3.1. Strengthened strategic vision on the development of Prespa Transboundary Area | | Output 3.2. Established border crossing point with Greece | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | No progress to report since the project started in December 2023. |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | N/A |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | N/A |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | N/A |

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| **2022 Annual Action Plan** | |
| **AD 2022 “EU for Modern Wastewater Systems”** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | Output 1.1. Sewerage systems in the municipalities of Shtip, Veles and Vinica rehabilitated/extended | N/A | **For Shtip (sewerage and WWTP):** Under preparation are ToR and service tender documentation for technical assistance/supervisions as well as technical and works tender documentation with 2 lots.  **For Vinica (sewerage):** Under preparation are technical and works tender documentation.  Please note that due to the maturity issues, planned project in Veles (sewerage and WWTP) was removed from the AD. | | Output 1.2. Wastewater treatment plants in Shtip and Veles built and operational | | Output 1.3. Increase of GHG emissions due to the operation of the WWTPs partly offset | | Output 1.4. Stewardship of reclaimed streams of wastewater treatment for productive uses provided | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | No progress to report until the end of December 2023. |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | N/A |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | N/A |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | N/A |

**Thematic Priority 2: Transport, digital economy and society, energy**

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| **2014-2020 Multi-annual Action Programme for Environment and Climate Action and Transport** | |
| **2014-2020 Sector Operational Programme Transport** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Priority action** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | **Priority action 1 Rail transport infrastructure**  Key output for the works is 23.4 of railway line constructed as part of TEN-T Comprehensive Network to the Western Balkans | Construction of new railway section from Kriva Palanka to the Border with Republic of Bulgaria as part of Corridor VIII | Verso from EUD was submitted on 22.09.2023. On 02.10.2023 a coordination meeting among the IPA OS and EUD was held for clarification of the EUDs’ comments. On 12.10.2023 an IPA coordination meeting was held in the premises of MoF at which the TD was being revised accordingly. PEMRI submitted the TD to MoTC on 12.10.2023. MoTC submitted the TD to CFCD on 16.10.2023. Publication of CN for the Works Contract is on 22.12.2023. Contract is expected to be signed in August 2024 and completed within 84 months. | | **Priority action 1 Rail transport infrastructure** | Supply and installation for signalization of the railway level crossings | The project for signalization of railway level crossings has experienced delays, with multiple urgencies sent to PEMRI throughout 2021 and a draft Tender Document (TD) submitted by MoTC in August 2021 for finalization. Due to slow progress and the absence of a finalized TD and market analysis, the project was reallocated from IPA 2 to the Safe and Sustainable Transport Programme in 2022, with PIFs for the first and second phases submitted to the Transport Community. | | **Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure** | Major Project - Construction of road section Gradsko – Interchange Drenovo as part of road Corridor X-d, works contract No. 12-4986/1 and service contract for supervision No. 12-5554/1 | The Gradsko-Drenovo road section project, under Contract No. 12-4986/1 with TirrenaScavi S.p.A. and STRABAG, is over 84% complete as of December 2023, facing delays due to pending approval of Addendum No.3 and preparation of Addendum No.4, while the supervision contract with Egis International and partners is actively monitoring and directing the construction, with Addendum No.5 under review by the Operating Structure and EUD. | | **Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure** | Rehabilitation of State Road A2, section Kumanovo – Stracin (phase 1) –works contract | The rehabilitation of State road A2, section Kumanovo – Stracin (phase 1), contracted with Hydrostroy JSC & Eskavatori-MK DOOEL, began on 21.04.2021 and was expected to complete by 07.10.2022. Despite a delay and unfinished works, including bridge rehabilitation and guardrail installation, the project reached a point where a Taking Over Certificate was issued on 30.12.2022. The project is now in the Defect Liability Period, following adherence to the original guardrail design as per MoTC's directive. | | **Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure** | Supervision of the Rehabilitation of State Road A2, section Kumanovo – Stracin (phase 1) –service contract | The supervision contract for the rehabilitation of State Road A2, section Kumanovo – Stracin (phase 1), signed with IRD Engineering and DIWI, commenced on 07.04.2021 and, following Addendum No.1, is now set to complete in 47 months by 07.03.2025, extending the original completion date from 07.10.2024. | | **Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure** | Construction of new expressway from Prilep – bridge on Lenishka River and Construction of third lane of road section from village Belovodica – Mavrovo quarry | As of 21.12.2023, the project for constructing a new expressway from Prilep to the bridge on Lenishka River and a third lane from village Belovodica to Mavrovo quarry is seeking exemption from the Procurement Plan, as officially requested by PESR to MoTC. | | **Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure** | Replacement of guardrails according to EN standards on 100 km motorways on Corridor | The project for replacing guardrails on 100 km of motorways on Corridor X is currently in progress under the Safe and Sustainable Transport Programme, having been transferred from IPA 2 following the reallocation of funds. | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance**  The project to which this contract refers to, shall provide strategic plan for transformation of the Skopje's current urban transport system into a sustainable urban transport system through improving of the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the transport network, reducing the impact of transport on the environment, ensuring accessible transport options for all citizens, ensuring personal safety and security within the transport system and improving of the overall quality of life for the citizens, by applying of the concept of sustainable urban mobility planning. | City of Skopje Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan | Following the suspension of the TD by EUD (01.11.2023), the TD is currently being revised by the Beneficiary Institutions. During January 2024, a meeting was held between operational structure and EUD for resolving the open issues regarding the TD.  Related to the shortlist evaluation, even though the deadline for submission of RfPs was 28.04.2023 the evaluation started on 21.09.2023 due to the late submission of the nomination of Evaluation Committee members (10.07.2023) by the Beneficiary Institutions and afterwards the inability of the Evaluation Committee members to start with the evaluation. The EUD approved the nomination on 14.07.2023. The evaluation is on-going.  Tender (for the second phase-full tender evaluation) is expected to be launched in February 2024, contract is expected to be signed in July 2024 and completed within 24 months | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance** | Development of Implementation plan under the National Transport Strategy 2018-2030 with system, tools and capacity for its monitoring | Relaunched tender procedure:  The evaluation report was submitted to EUD on 08.11.2023, and it was rejected on 27.11. 2023. A request for prior approval for an extension of the validity of offers was submitted to EUD on 07.12 2023, but it was rejected on 19.12. 2023. The validity of the offers expired on 11.12.2023 and cancellation notice was approved by EUD on 12.01.2024. | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance**  **Output 1** Scoping report - needs to be submitted one month from the start of the project  **Output 2** Problem Analysis Report – needs to be submitted three months from the start of the project  **Output 3** Draft National Aviation Development Strategy needs to be submitted seven months from the start of the project  **Output 4** Action plan - needs to be submitted seven months from the start of the project  **Output 5** SEA report (approved by relevant national authorities)- needs to be submitted eight months from the start of the project | Preparation of National aviation strategy 2023-2032 | Relaunched tender procedure:  On 28.02.2023, the tender procedure was modified from simplified to international restricted and the project implementation period was reduced from 12 months to 9 months, following the approval of OIS.  TD was approved by EUD on 03.07.2023.  The Shortlist evaluation started on 18.05.2023 and it is still not finished. Specifically, the SHL Report was submitted to EUD for ex-ante control on 28.09.2023 and it was suspended on 18.10.2023. The revised SHL Report was submitted to EUD on 21.11.2023 and it was rejected on 07.12.2023. The re-evaluation is ongoing.  Tender dossier (for the second phase-full tender evaluation) is expected to be launched in February 2024, contact is expected to be signed in July 2024 and completed within 9 months. | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance** | Preparation of project documentation for multimodal node Trubarevo | The contract for the preparation of project documentation for the multimodal node Trubarevo is actively progressing, with the contract signed on 08.03.2023, received by MoTC on 03.04.2023, and an Administrative Order issued on 19.04.2023. End date of the project activities: 21st October 2024 | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance** | Technical audit for the Major Project Construction of road section Gradsko – Interchange Drenovo as part of road Corridor X-d | The technical audit for the Gradsko – Interchange Drenovo road section project is currently in a state of cancellation, following the submission of an official request by CFCD to EUD to cancel the procedure, and an exemption from the Procurement Plan as requested by MoTC and confirmed by PESR. | | **Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance** | Preparation of design documentation and implementation of measures for improvement of road safety | The contract for the preparation of design documentation and implementation of road safety improvement measures, within OIS initially approved on 27.12.2019, has been transferred to IPA 3, and is excluded from the SOPT 2014-2020 program, with future realization pending decision in cooperation with PESR. |   **Part of the AD under Indirect Management**   * Major delay in the implementation of the procurement plan. Currently, the total contracting rate under the programme is 27% until the end of 2023. Only 1% of the Procurement plan for 2023 has been implemented. Related to the ex-ante controls of tender documentation by the EUD, rejection rate is 15.56% while suspension rate is 31.11%. * Major differences between the forecast submitted and request of funds. Around 6% of the Disbursement plan for 2023 has been realised. Currently, total disbursement rate under the programme is 21%.  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Total IPA funds available under AD** | **Contracted amount in 2023** | **Total IPA funds contracted until the end of 2023** | **Total IPA funds disbursed until the end of 2023** | **Remarks (e.g. deviation from plan)** | | 110,914,610 EUR | 616,250 EUR | 30,485,992 EUR | 23,760,027 EUR | Out of contracted IPA funds, around 39% of IPA funds have been paid to the contractors.  Slow progress in implementation of procurement procedures due to the various difficulties resulted in significant delays causing decommitment of funds at the end of 2022 and 2023. | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | **Contract title** | **Main achievements and assessment** | | Priority action 1 Rail transport infrastructure | Construction of new railway section from Kriva Palanka to the Border with Republic of Bulgaria,as part of Corridor VIII | N/A since the project is in tendering phase. Key output for the works is 23.4 of railway line constructed as part of TEN-T Comprehensive Network to the Western Balkans | | Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure | Major Project - Construction of road section Gradsko – Interchange Drenovo as part of road Corridor X-d, works contract No. 12-4986/1 and service contract for supervision No. 12-5554/1 | In 2023, the major project involving the construction of the Gradsko-Drenovo road section, part of the Corridor X-d, progressed significantly, reaching over 84% completion. Originally contracted to TirrenaScavi S.p.A. in 2017, the project was reassigned to STRABAG in 2020. However, contractual amendments became a point of contention, with the contractor seeking to extend the construction period through Addendum No.3, which has yet to be signed. It is recommended to also prepare and sign Addendum No.4. The project’s supervision, contracted to Egis International and partners, proceeded with changes including the appointment of a new Team Leader in early 2023. The supervisory team is responsible for daily oversight and has proposed an extension of the supervision contract to align with the project's potential extended deadline. | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | City of Skopje Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan | N/A since the project is in evaluation phase | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Development of Implementation plan under the National Transport Strategy 2018-2030 with system, tools and capacity for its monitoring | N/A since the project is in evaluation phase | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Preparation of National aviation strategy 2023-2032 | N/A since the project is in evaluation phase | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Preparation of project documentation for multimodal node Trubarevo | The main achievement for the Trubarevo multimodal node project includes the successful signing of the contract, completion of administrative processes, organization of a kick-off and four Steering Committee meetings, and the creation of six reports by the consultant, with three reports officially finalized. | |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | **Contract title** | **Problem encountered and measures taken/planned** | | Priority action 1 Rail transport infrastructure | Construction of new railway section from Kriva Palanka to the Border with Republic of Bulgaria,as part of Corridor VIII | Slow activities on the side of the Final Beneficiary for finalization of TD. Assistance from MoTC and CFCD offered and provided. | | Priority action 2 Road transport infrastructure | Major Project - Construction of road section Gradsko – Interchange Drenovo as part of road Corridor X-d, works contract No. 12-4986/1 and service contract for supervision No. 12-5554/1 | The main problems in the Gradsko-Drenovo road section contract include the contractor's reluctance to sign Addendum No.3 without a construction period extension and the need for approval and revision of Addendum No.5, with measures undertaken including continuous negotiations and revisions to meet both contractual obligations and supervisory requirements. | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | City of Skopje Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan | Slow activities on the side of the Final Beneficiary for finalization of TD and for nomination of members for the evaluation committee. Assistance from MoTC offered and provided. | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Development of Implementation plan under the National Transport Strategy 2018-2030 with system, tools and capacity for its monitoring | The second phase of the evaluation was finished, and the report was submitted to EUD. On 20.12.2023 EUD cancelled the procedure. | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Preparation of National aviation strategy 2023-2032 | Slow activities due to ineligibility of the companies and change in the procedure from simplified to international restricted. | | Priority action 3 Horizontal assistance | Preparation of project documentation for multimodal node Trubarevo | There are no significant problems encountered during the implementation of the project. The reports are created and approved on time and the Steering Committee meetings are regularly held.  n.PM0 Inception Report; n.PM1 Project Review Report; n.PM2 Scoping Report; n.PM3 Data Collection Report **are already approved**  n.PM4 Objectives Definition Report and n.PM5 Procurement Strategy Report are under review from the Beneficiary Institution | |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | **Construction of new railway section from Kriva Palanka to the Border with Republic of Bulgaria,as part of Corridor VIII**   * Delays in obtaining of all necessary permissions from the relevant national authorities. * Timely implementation of the works contract pending of weather conditions   **City of Skopje Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan**   * Delays in performing of tasks; * Low quality in the performing of the tasks and activities; * Low involvement of citizens and stakeholders i.e. participatory planning; * Lack of financial resources for implementation of measures; * Low acceptance and support by decision makers; * Delays in preparing of General Urban Plan (2022 – 2032)   **Development of Implementation plan under the National Transport Strategy 2018-2030 with system, tools and capacity for its monitoring**   * Lack of information and delays in ensuring data necessary for completion of the activities envisaged under the Contract; * Lack of sufficient cooperation with involved stakeholders; * Low quality of the developed Implementation plan for the National Transport Strategy; * Conflicts in the national legislation that complicate the development of the project appraisal framework in an optimal way; * Difficulty in defining individual actions due to differences of view on the intended meaning of a specific measure in the national transport plan, and also the risk that the implementation plan actions will diverge from those that are defined in the Transport Strategy; * Excessive complication in the resulting IT tool, that limits usability;   **Preparation of National aviation strategy 2023-2032**   * Lack of information and delays in ensuring data necessary for completion for the activities envisaged under the Contract; * Lack of sufficient cooperation with involved stakeholders; |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | **Construction of new railway section from Kriva Palanka to the Border with Republic of Bulgaria, as part of Corridor VIII**   * Support and commitment of all relevant governmental institutions and of all international stakeholders * Adequate human and financial resources are made available to ensure proper execution of the works contract.   **City of Skopje Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan**   * Execution of tasks and activities with high quality; * Ensuring a well-structured involvement of the relevant stakeholders throughout the key stages of the planning process and encourage and enable citizens to get informed and to join the debate; * Identification of possible funding sources for each measure; * A proactive approach to communication and consultation by the Contractor, providing sufficient briefing of upcoming tasks and engaging in active collaboration during the preparation of guidance and standards.   **Development of Implementation plan under the National Transport Strategy 2018-2030 with system, tools and capacity for its monitoring**   * Development of a high-quality Implementation plan for the National Transport Strategy; * Strong communication with the relevant institutions responsible for drafting the regulation in order to mitigate the eventual problems in the development of the project appraisal framework; * Consensual decision making in the definition of measures between different stakeholders;   **Preparation of National aviation strategy 2023-2032**   * Good cooperation with all relevant stakeholders at local and national level and commitment of the Beneficiary[[1]](#footnote-1) Institution to provide the Contractor with access to all relevant materials, information and documents; * A strong Project Team within the Beneficiary having the necessary technical and managerial support for oversight of the contract, and clear lines of dialogue with the funding authority; * Contractor to provide the necessary skills and resource as outlined in the Terms of Reference for timely execution of the Contract according to all requirements; |

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| **FwC SIEA 2018 – Lot 2: Infrastructure, sustainable growth and jobs** | |
| **Supporting Energy Reforms Project** | |
| **State of play/ Progress for particular action (e.g. ToR in preparation, tender launched, contracted, under implementation, completed)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Status** | | **Output 1:** Recommendations and support for the implementation of actions aiming at improving overall policy coordination concerning energy | **Supporting Energy Reforms Project**  FWC SIEA 2018 – Lot 2: Infrastructure, sustainable growth and jobs | Commencement date of the **Supporting Energy Reforms Project**: January 11, 2023. Activities for implementation of the Outputs 1, 2 and 3 are ongoing. | | **Output 2:** Increased harmonization with the acquis under the Energy Community Treaty and the EU energy acquis | | **Output 3:** Institutional capacities for implementation and enforcement of the legislation strengthened. | |
| **Main achievements and their assessment** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Outputs** | **Contract title** | **Main achievements and assessment** | | **Output 1:** Recommendations and support for the implementation of actions aiming at improving overall policy coordination concerning energy | **Supporting Energy Reforms Project**  FWC SIEA 2018 – Lot 2: Infrastructure, sustainable growth and jobs | **Output: Recommendations and support for the implementation of actions aiming at improving the overall policy coordination concerning energy, with the following deliverables:**   * Drafted Rulebook on Renewable Energy Equipment Specification * Delivered recommendations on implementing REPowerEU plan in North Macedonia with a focus on Institutional coordination * Provided advice on the draft Climate Act * Delivered recommendations for centralized collection of energy sector data and energy planning * Drafted policy recommendations for the use of biofuels in the transport sector in line with the 2018 Renewable Energy Directive   **Output: Increased harmonisation with the acquis under the Energy Community Treaty and the EU energy acquis, with the following deliverables:**   * Prepared Gap analysis regarding the EE Directive 2018/2002(EU) * Amended Decree on adoption of new EE targets * Drafted amendments to the Law on Energy Efficiency * Drafted Rulebook for Municipal Energy Efficiency Programmes (public consultation held on November 15, 2023) * Drafted EPC Decree including two model contracts with guaranteed and shared savings (public consultation held on November 23, 2023) * Drafted Rulebook for Procurement by the Public Sector (ongoing work) * Assisted the Energy Department with the EU Screening and analytical examination of the EU acquis in the preparation for accession negotiations   **Output: Strengthened institutional capacities of the Energy Department within the Ministry of Economy and the Energy Agency, with the following deliverables:**   * Delivered report on high level organizational review of the Energy Department and the Energy Agency * Provided recommendations for centralized collection of energy sector data and energy planning * Prepared three-year Renovation Plan of central government buildings * Supported the Just Transition activities at the Ministry of Economy | | **Output 2:** Increased harmonization with the acquis under the Energy Community Treaty and the EU energy acquis | | **Output 3:** Institutional capacities for implementation and enforcement of the legislation strengthened. | |
| **Significant problems encountered and the measures taken/planned to overcome them** | The Government shall appoint a governance structure for the just transition process such as an Inter-ministerial Committee by the end of September 2023.  The Government has brought Decision for establishing a Just Transition Council for timely and successful implementation of the measures and activities listed in the Just Transition Roadmap in June 2023. 3 working groups are established as well. |
| **Developments and/or identified risks that influence future implementation and the achievement of the objectives** | N/A |
| **Recommendations for corrective further actions** | N/A |

1. Beneficiary institution here means: The Ministry of Transport and Communications – Aviation Department. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)